

REMARKS

Claims 12, 13 and 15-17 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 12 is amended to correct an obvious typographical informality, and claims 1, 2 and 4-11 are canceled.

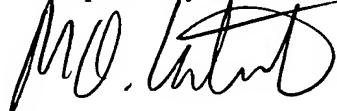
Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 12, 13 and 15-17. As all rejected claims have been canceled, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP-A-10-56760. In addition, claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over this same reference. These rejections are moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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